



MACo LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

VOLUME 20, NO. 6

January 30, 2009

The Montana Association of Counties (MACo) publishes this **weekly** bulletin containing summary descriptions of bills of interest to local government officials. **Each issue lists only the bills that have been introduced during the week. Please save this message or print it for future reference.**

Copies of bills are typically sent to County Clerks and Recorders and also can be found at: [http://laws.leg.mt.gov/laws09/LAW0200W\\$.Startup](http://laws.leg.mt.gov/laws09/LAW0200W$.Startup)

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Many legislators have their own e-mail addresses, which can be found at
<http://leg.mt.gov/css/sessions/61st/roster.asp?HouseID=0&SessionID=94>

MACo & the Montana Legislature

The MACo Web site has a page at <http://www.maco.cog.mt.us/Legislature/Legislative.htm> dedicated to helping members keep track of the happenings at the 61th Montana Legislature. There you'll find MACo's resolutions, links to pertinent bills, an archive of our weekly *Legislative Updates*, links to bills and bill status reports, hearings calendars, committee listings, legislator contact information, and more.

Scheduled Hearings for Feb. 2-6, 2009

The Senate Local Government Committee meets Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 3 p.m. in Room 405. The House Local Government Committee meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3 p.m. in Room 172. MACo bills are shown below in **bold**.

Monday, Feb. 2

	Room	Time
SB 155 Require post-election audits of vote-counting machines	455	8 a.m.
SB 156 Revise law to coordinate certain political candidate filing deadlines	455	8 a.m.
SB 181 Require tax information agents to report certain real estate transactions	152	10 a.m.
HB 240 Reduce business equipment property tax and reimburse local tax jurisdictions	152	10 a.m.
SB 88 Revise and clarify school speed zone law	455	3 p.m.
HB 173 Appropriation for rural Montana healthcare delivery assistance pilot project	102	3 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 3

	Room	Time
SB 265 Local option fuel tax in urban transportation districts	405	8 a.m.
SB 295 Allow legislators to retire from public employment while serving in the Legislature	422	10 a.m.
HB 27 Revise universal system benefit laws	102	3 p.m.
HB 60 Jail mental health crisis network standards pilot program	102	3 p.m.
SB 34 Extend boundary of community decay ordinances for fuel treatment	172	3 p.m.
SB 98 Authorize local taxing jurisdiction for wildland fuel reduction projects	172	3 p.m.
SB 78 Clarify mill levy limit for soil conservation districts	172	3 p.m.
SB 215 Revise reference to county share of county attorney pay	172	3 p.m.
SB 289 Include killing poultry as basis for killing dog	335	3 p.m.
SB 268 Revise law on securing of loads	405	3 p.m.
SB 213 Require FWP plan to manage wildlife to prevent disease transmission	422	3 p.m.
SB 55 Generally revise fertilizer laws	472	3 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 4

	Room	Time
SB 129 Fire management easement program	405	8 a.m.

Scheduled Hearings, cont.

Wednesday, Feb. 4, cont.

	Room	Time
SB 196 Designate American Indian Heritage Day	455	8 a.m.
HB 276 Clarify responsibility for persons injured by law enforcement	137	8 a.m.
HB 293 Law enforcement certification for certain former military personnel	137	8 a.m.
SB 234 Insurance coverage for autism	422	9 a.m.
SJ 10 Study options for state work comp coverage	422	9 a.m.
SB 192 Small business work comp relief	422	9 a.m.
SB 150 Revise unemployment insurance laws	422	9 a.m.
HB 257 Revise pharmacy laws	152	3 p.m.
SB 193 Survey monument preservation	422	3 p.m.
SB 297 Map state gravel resources	422	3 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 5

	Room	Time
HB 227 Offset of personal consumption expenses in survival actions	137	8 a.m.
HB 347 Revise third-party bad faith litigation	137	8 a.m.
HB 308 Allow donation of food as method of serving sentence of community service	137	8 a.m.
SB 348 Remove exemption to lobbyist licensing, registration, and reporting	455	8 a.m.
HB 328 Revise petition requirements for certain candidates	455	8 a.m.
SB 285 Revise attorney fees for medical benefits in work comp	303	9 a.m.
HB 331 Revise laws relating to licensed establishments for health purposes	172	3 p.m.
HB 361 Local energy improvement district financing	172	3 p.m.
HB 234 Optional firearm purchase by retiring law enforcement personnel	172	3 p.m.
SB 278 Prohibit hand-held cell phone use and text messaging while driving	405	3 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 6

	Room	Time
HB 349 Revise animal cruelty laws	137	8 a.m.
HB 325 Assured coverage of colon cancer screening	152	3 p.m.

Projected Session Calendar

Please note: This calendar was revised by legislative leadership Dec. 4, 2008; leadership holds the authority to further revise the schedule, including the days the Legislature meets and the proposed breaks.

Introduction deadlines: Generally, bills and resolutions must be introduced within two legislative days after delivery. JR 40-50, H40-10.

"General bills" is used to denote all bills, except appropriation or revenue bills, and all joint resolutions.

Notes: Deadline dates are determined according to legislative days, using a six-day legislative week.

Certain bills and resolutions relating to administrative rules may be transmitted at any time during the session. JR 40-200(3).

Feb. 16:	Last day for Committee to request General Bills
Feb. 26:	Transmittal of General Bills to other Chamber
Feb. 27-28:	Transmittal Break
March 18:	Transmittal of Revenue-Estimating Joint Resolutions
March 20:	Last day for Committee to request Revenue Bills
March 26:	Transmittal of Appropriation Bills
March 31:	Transmittal of Revenue Bills
April 2:	Transmittal of amendments to General Bills
April 4:	Last day to request Study Resolution or Committee Bills to implement HB2
April 14:	Transmittal of amendments to Appropriation Bills
April 16:	Transmittal of amendments to Revenue Bills and Revenue-Estimating Joint Resolutions
April 20:	Transmittal of Interim Study Resolutions
April 25:	Session adjourns; Sine Die

MACo Resolutions/Legislation

No.	Title	Res. No.	Sponsor	Status-Date
HB 38	Revise laws to reflect passage of six-mill levy	2008-22	Campbell	TX to Senate-1/22
HB 45	Compliance w/ federal law for forest reserve payments	MACoBd	Ingraham	TX to Senate-1/16
HB 60	Jail mental health crisis network standards pilot program		Ebinger	Hearing-2/3
HB 81	Study long-term impacts of budget/demographics		Lake	Hearing-1/20
HB 156	Uniform penalty/enforcement for zoning violations	2004-28	Pomnichowski	Hearing-1/20
HB 180*	Montana-based business technology districts	2008-38	Pomnichowski	Tabled in committee-1/15
HB 190	Clarify stream access from bridges/fencing	2008-11	Van Dyk	TX to Senate-1/28
HB 194	County payment from hard rock mining trust account	2008-24	Mendenhall	Re-referred to committee-1/13
HB 230	Revise local government employee incentive program	2008-15	McClafferty	Hearing-1/29
HB 244	Clarify law on absence by county officer	2008-01	Ankney	Scheduled f/ 3 rd reading-1/30
HB 245	Authorize counties to create compensated absence fund	2008-09	Ankney	Scheduled f/ 3 rd reading-1/30
HB 276	Clarify responsibility for persons injured by law enforcement	2008-20	Stoker	Hearing-2/4
HB 279	Indirect cost recovery exemption	2008-35	Reinhart	Hearing-1/30
HB 331	Revise laws relating to licensed establishments f/ health	2008-18	Kaufmann	Hearing-2/5
SB 30**	Revise reimbursement for meals, lodging	MACoEC	Gebhardt	Tabled in committee-1/9
SB 57	Revise laws governing special districts	2008-33	Gillan	Passed as amended-1/27
SB 58	Revise local government laws	2008-33	Gillan	Passed as amended-1/27
SB 78	Clarify mill levy limit for soil conservation districts	2008-31	Brendan	Hearing-2/3
SB 148	Revise and clarify local government laws	2008-26	Peterson	Passed as amended-1/27
SB 169	Revise drug testing requirements for public officers	2008-13	Gebhardt	Referred to committee-1/22
SB 191	Provide funding for court security	2008-11	Jent	2 nd reading postponed-1/27
SB 208	Include non-profit hospital employees in co. health plan	MACoHCT	Lewis	Hearing-1/28
SJ 7	Opposition to HR 2421	2008-08	Brendan	2 nd reading-1/30
LC0605	Revise territory transfer laws relating to K-12 school dists.	2008-29	L. Jones	Draft on hold-1/8
LC0606	Revise laws governing electric transmission lines	2008-12	L. Jones	Draft on hold-11/12
LC0659	Authorize local governments to form investment pool	2008-30	Lewis	Draft on hold-11/19
LC0942	Revise laws governing local subdivision regulations	2008-07	Brueggeman	Draft on hold-1/8
LC0943	Revise impact fee laws	2008-19	Brueggeman	Draft back f/ redo-1/21
LC1089	Funding for grants to counties under youth court act	2008-40	McChesney	Draft on hold-12/8
LC1342	State PILT payment to offset state land purchases	2008-34	Bean	Draft on hold-12/10
LC1922	Clarify appt. of commissioners for regional airport authority	2008-03	Milburn	Draft ready f/ del.-1/27
LC1936	Create youth summer employment program	2006-14	Branee	Draft cancelled-1/15
LC 2095	Increase lodging/per diem reimbursement f/ state emps.	MACoEC	Shockley	1 st reading-1/29
LC 2121	Revise requirements for technology districts	2008-38	Pomnichowski	Draft request rec.-1/13
* HB 180 has been replaced by LC2121				
** SB 30 has been replaced by LC2095				

Recently Introduced Bills

No.	Title
SB 268	Revise law on securing of roads
SB 269	Revise the regulation of time shares
SB 272	Exclude public schools from impact fees
SB 273	Revise school trustee laws
SB 274	Constitutional amendment to allow acquisition value for property taxation
SB 276	Require absentee voter confirmation forms to be mailed annually, only in January
SB 277	Box store tax
SB 278	Prohibit hand-held cell phone use and text messaging while driving
SB 280	Revise tax exemption of rental personal property
SB 285	Revise attorney fees for medical benefits in work comp
SB 287	Consumer health freedom and access act
SB 289	Include killing poultry as basis for killing dog
SB 291	Montana railroad authority

Recently Introduced Bills, cont.

No.	Title
SB 293	Revise requirements for campaign advertising materials
SB 294	Include roads as undertaking for municipal revenue bonds
SB 297	Map state gravel resources
SB 305	Revise subdivision and platting act
SB 306	Definition of remainders
SB 307	Adding exempt sale provision to subdivision review law
SB 309	Increase lodging and per diem reimbursement for state employees
HB 336	Revise duties of fire district trustees and boards
HB 342	Extend liability limits to certain emergency births
HB 345	Damages for unfair claims settlement practices
HB 347	Revise third-party bad faith litigation
HB 348	Remove exemption to lobbyist licensing, registration, and reporting
HB 349	Revise animal cruelty laws
HB 351	Health care freedom of conscience act
HB 359	Public notice and hearing for opencut applications
HB 361	Local energy improvement district financing
HB 362	Limit liability for practice of disaster medicine
HB 364	Establish administrative code committee
HB 371	Revise and clarify train crossing laws
HB 375	Endorse western climate initiative
HB 376	Alcohol/drug test for DUI as condition of probation or sentence